



Town of Groton, Connecticut

Meeting Minutes

Town Council Committee of the Whole

45 Fort Hill Road
Groton, CT 06340-4394
Town Clerk 860-441-6640
Town Manager
860-441-6630

Mayor Bruce Flax, Councilors Dean G. Antipas, Diane Barber, Joe de la Cruz, Greg Grim, Karen F. Morton, Bonnie Nault, Deb Peruzzotti, and Harry A. Watson

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

6:00 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

SPECIAL MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Flax called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mayor Flax, Councilor Grim, Councilor Morton, Councilor Nault, Councilor de la Cruz, Councilor Peruzzotti and Councilor Watson

Members Absent: Councilor Barber and Councilor Antipas

Also present were Town Manager Mark Oefinger and Executive Assistant Nicki Bresnyan.

3. NEW BUSINESS

2016-0135

Resolution Appointing Members of the Charter Revision Commission

Discussed

Chairman Flax invited the 11 potential Charter Revision Commission (CRC) members to introduce themselves. They are: Scott Aument, Kathy Chase, Jane Dauphinais, Robert Frink, Patrice Granatosky, Dee Hauber, Roseanne Kotowski, Brandon Marley, Daniel Mello, Darcy Peruzzotti, and Jennifer Loblin White. Mayor Flax solicited questions from the group.

Councilor Antipas arrived at 6:11 p.m.

Roll Call: Members Present: Mayor Flax, Councilor Grim, Councilor Antipas, Councilor Morton, Councilor Nault, Councilor de la Cruz, Councilor Peruzzotti and Councilor Watson
Members Absent: Councilor Barber

Discussed

Mr. Frink asked for an opinion from the Town Attorney about what the CRC can do based on CGS Sec. 7-188(a)(1) that mentions existing charters and special acts. Town Manager Oefinger noted that there will ultimately be a number of questions raised by the CRC that the Town Attorney will need to review. Mr. Aument questioned the process. The Town Manager distributed a general schedule.

In response to Councilor Grim, Mayor Flax stated that a list of Charter issues identified by the Council will be provided to the CRC via the Town Manager.

A motion was made by Councilor Peruzzotti, seconded by Councilor Morton, that this matter be Recommended for a Resolution.

The motion carried unanimously

2016-0136

Resolution Setting the Organizational Meeting Date for the Charter Revision Commission

Discussed

Mayor Flax asked the Charter Revision Commission (CRC) appointees when they would like to have an organizational meeting. Ms. Granatosky stated that meetings date(s) will be impacted by staff availability, if there will be Town staff support. Town Manager Oefinger recommended that the Commission have Town staff support as this will be a lengthy and complicated process. The CRC organizational meeting was scheduled for Monday, May 23, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at the Town

Hall Annex, Community Room 1.

A motion was made by Councilor Peruzzotti, seconded by Councilor Watson, that this matter be Recommended for a Resolution.

The motion carried unanimously

2016-0137

FYE 2017 Contingency Transfer for Support of the Charter Revision Commission

Discussed

Town Manager Oefinger distributed estimated costs for the Town Attorney and Town Clerk overtime associated with the Charter Revision Commission effort, based on the level of effort in 2007-2008. The total estimated costs are over \$11,000. Mayor Flax suggested transferring \$7,000.00 from Contingency. It was noted that transfers under \$10,000 do not require RTM approval.

A motion was made by Councilor Watson, seconded by Councilor Grim, that this matter be Recommended for a Resolution.

The Town Manager explained that the Town Council needs to provide proper resources for the CRC including access to the Town Attorney and clerical assistance to take minutes so that CRC members can participate fully in discussions.

The motion carried unanimously

Discussed

Ms. Dauphinais requested copies of the current charter, minutes from the last CRC effort, and the final report (with minority report) of the last CRC.

4. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilor Peruzzotti, seconded by Councilor de la Cruz, to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.